

COMBINE DEFEATS SALARY INCREASE AND LIGHT PLANT

Compact Slaughters Ordinances Ruthlessly as They Are Brought Up.

MOST REMARKABLE IN BOARD'S HISTORY

Considerable Feeling Displayed, and One Disgusted Member Defied Wishes of Body and Walked Out Without Permission.

WHAT THE BOARD KILLED
The Dabney electric light and power plant project.
Increase of City Attorney's salary to \$5,000.
All increases of salary proposed in ordinances finally acted on.

WHAT THE BOARD PASSED.
Ordinance appropriating \$20,000 to Confederate Veteran Reunion.
Ordinance appropriating \$10,000 for Richmond building at Jamestown Exposition.

THE ANTI-SALARY INCREASE COMBINATION.
Aldermen Adams, Cottrell, Gillman, Larus, Mann, Mansur, Moore, Reynolds, Satterfield and President Turpin. Messrs. Adams and Cottrell voted for one or two propositions. The others held together.

The Board of Aldermen held last night the most remarkable session in its entire history, the feature of the session being the disclosure of the existence of a powerful secret compact by sufficient members to defeat every proposition of an increase in salary, however meritorious. The procedure was revolutionary in its nature. As was afterward admitted, it was the result of a preconcerted effort by certain members who determined to stay what they regarded as a wholesale and on the City Treasury. In order to give the combination strength and cohesiveness it became necessary for those participating in it to give and take; that is to say, to vote against some propositions they favored in order to defeat others they opposed.

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Dabney Defeated.
This revolutionary feature of the session overshadowed even the defeat of the Dabney electric light and power plant ordinance, which, though not embraced in the compact, remained the votes of many of the combination. Mr. Dabney made a forceful presentation of the arguments for the project and covered every phase of the question with great care, challenging the opposition to question his facts and figures, and quelling heads of other departments in advocacy of the plan. Not a word was said in opposition by way of argument, Mr. Bennett merely explaining his negative vote. When the roll-call began there was intense silence and close attention. Before it had been half concluded, some member remarked sotto voce, "It's dead," and the sequel proved that he knew the situation better than did the patron of the ordinance or the majority of the members.

Veterans Get Money.
Despite the defeat of the electric light ordinance and of every salary increase proposed, the Board unanimously adopted the conference report appropriating \$20,000 in aid of the general reunion committee of the Confederate veterans. This now goes to the

GRAND LODGE OF MASONS BEGINS ANNUAL MEETING WITH LARGE ATTENDANCE

Opening Session of Body Held Last Night in the Masonic Temple.

The city is full of Masons who have come up from all parts of Virginia to attend Grand Lodge. While the transactions of the grand communication this year are in no way exciting, and are not regarded by the craft as being especially important, the one hundred and twenty-ninth annual meeting has brought to Richmond several hundred members of the craft, and they are greatly enjoying the gathering, which is social, as well as strictly business.

The grand working committee held two meetings yesterday, and at 7:30 o'clock last night the Grand Lodge



proper was opened in ample form. The address of the grand master dealt at length in matters that are considered in secrecy, and his lengthy report of the work of the year past cannot be published. It was, however, a carefully prepared record of his administration and contains a great deal of valuable information to the members.

Officers Present.
The Grand Lodge was opened at the hour named, with the following officers filling the stations: Kosciuszko Kemper, grand master; S. J. Quinn, deputy grand master; Joseph W. Eggleston, grand senior warden; Walter Dindrie, grand junior warden; protem: W. Fred Pleasants, grand treasurer; George W. Carrington, grand secretary; W. B. McChesney, grand senior deacon; Rev. George H. Ray, grand chaplain; W. C. Wilkinson, grand tiler; James A. Pamplin, grand pursuivant.

The following past grand masters occupied seats in the east: R. T. W. Duke, Edward N. Eubank, George W. Wright, Thomas N. Davis and H. O. Kerns. Grand Lodge, having been opened in due and ancient form, the grand master read his long annual report, which was referred to a special committee, composed of the past grand masters in attendance.

Finances in Good Shape.
The report of the finance committee, C. S. Wingo, chairman, shows the receipts of the Grand Lodge from all sources to have been \$39,951.84 and the disbursements to have been \$30,426.61. The report of the grand treasurer gave similar figures, and in addition gives the receipts from the Grand Lodge and the subordinate lodges for the relief of Masons in San Francisco, who suffered by the great earthquake. The total contributions, including \$500 from the grand treasury, amounted to \$3,651.95.

The committee on property, Major Sol. Cutchins chairman, made an interesting report concerning the Masonic Temple. The income from the building is now very satisfactory, and the debt on the same is being rapidly reduced. The magnificent building is in splendid condition and is being kept in good order. It is valued, with the ground, at \$102,000.

The committee appointed at the last grand communication to report on revision of the digest (the Masonic law book), made a very lengthy report, which was referred to the committee on jurisprudence and will be in turn reported upon by them to the Grand Lodge. The probability is that this document will cause a lengthy discussion both in the committee room and on

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DECLINES TO HEAR HECKLER PETITION

Judge Scott Refuses to Grant Rehearing in Case of Henrico Treasurer.

The petition was based on certain after-discovered facts, which the late treasurer's attorney claim to have discovered in their examination of the books of the officer, said to be errors in the report of H. B. Boudier & Company, accountants, who, the attorneys claim, charged certain accounts to Mr. Heckler that were not properly so chargeable, and failed to allow him credit for commission, which was due on certain accounts.

The estimate of Messrs. O'Flaherty & Fulton, attorneys for Mr. Heckler, shows that according to their figures, instead of being short \$83.16 on November 1, 1906, as shown by the report of Boudier & Company, Mr. Heckler had actually on hand \$938.44 in excess of the said alleged shortage. Judge Scott held that the decision had become final on completion of the term in which judgment was rendered, and, therefore, declined to receive the paper in vacation. The attorneys thereupon noted an exception, and have been authorized by Mr. Heckler to carry the case to the Supreme Court.

The Petition.
The petition of Mr. Heckler is in part as follows:
To the Honorable Carter Scott, Judge of

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GOES TO SUPREME COURT

Judge R. Carter Scott, of the Henrico Circuit Court, yesterday afternoon declined to hear the petition of Mr. H. C. Heckler for a rehearing of the case recently resulting in his removal from the office of treasurer.

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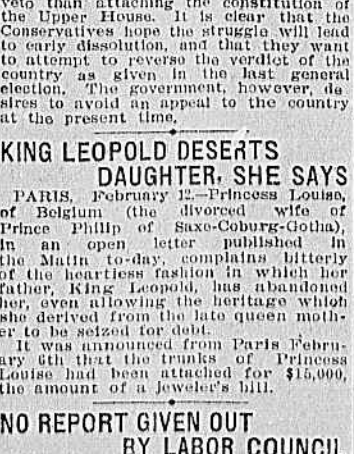
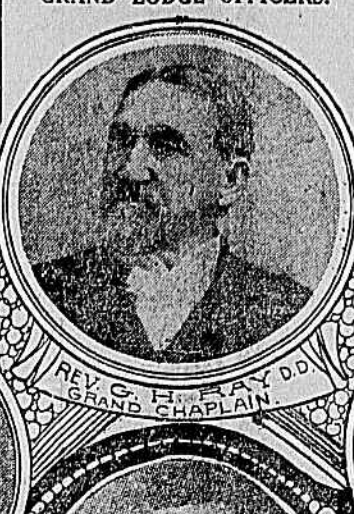
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GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.



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JEROME ACCUSES DELMAS OF ATTEMPTING TRICKERY IN QUESTIONING WITNESS

Dr. Evans Testifies Thaw Was Insane When He Shot Stanford White.

NEW YORK, February 12.—District Attorney Jerome and Delphin M. Delmas came together into the first serious clash between counsel in the Harry Thaw trial, and the California attorney, who is directing the defense, took exception to certain statements of the prosecution.

record of the case a protest against "the misconduct of the learned district attorney." Mr. Jerome hotly accused the defendant's counsel of trying to instill into the

minds of the jury the implied suggestion that the operation upon Evelyn Nesbit in 1906, before Thaw took her to Europe, was "of a criminal nature," when as a matter of fact, he said, "it was for appendicitis." Mr. Delmas called the attention of Justice Fitzgerald to the fact, saying that the district attorney was stating facts not in evidence, and that "a very serious exception must be taken to his remarks."

"Send the jury out of the room if you want to," exclaimed Mr. Jerome, "but I am going to get this straight. I am not going to have these false impressions fostered before this jury and in the minds of the witnesses."

Delmas Calm.
Mr. Jerome seemed thoroughly wrought up, while Mr. Delmas did not for an instant lose his calm demeanor, but put force and emphasis to his words new to his hearers. Mr. Delmas said he would withdraw objection to the term "criminal operation" if Mr. Delmas would let him in the word of counsel that they did not know the nature of the operation. Mr. Delmas gave his word that he did not know its nature.

Alvah Martin Involved.
Carney's appointment as assistant postmaster in 1898. It is charged, was from John B. Waddy, the then postmaster, by Alvah H. Martin, who threatened Waddy with defeat or removal if Carney was not appointed. Waddy had refused to appoint Carney on the ground of alleged general unfitness and undesirable character.

2 KILLED, 3 INJURED, IN SOUTHERN WRECK
COLUMBIA, S. C., February 12.—Two men were killed and three injured in a rear-end collision between two extra freight trains on the Southern Railway near Johnston, this State, at an early hour to-day. The dead are Sever Devan, a negro fireman, 30 years of age, and an unknown white man, the latter was west Goodwin, brakeman; G. O. Stewart, engineer, and D. C. Black, conductor, none seriously.

TEARING DOWN FENCES TO KEEP FROM FREEZING
MARTIN'S FERRY, O., February 12.—With temperature averaging five degrees below zero, the natural gas supply gave out at Martin's Ferry today, and thousands of people are suffering severely. Reports all along the natural gas line in this vicinity say the same condition prevails. People in many homes are actually frost-bitten, and are tearing down fences in order to get fuel to warm their homes.

138 PERISH IN STEAMER WRECK

The Knowlton Crashes Into S. S. Larchmont and Sinks Her.

PASSENGERS FREEZE IN THE LIFEBOATS

Corpses Washed Up on Shore. Sailor in Captain's Boat Cuts His Throat—Fearful Suffering—Captain Escapes and Tells Story.

LARCHMONT VICTIMS.

NEW YORK, February 12.—Lives lost, probably 200; known to be saved, 13.
Passengers on Larchmont, at least 175. Number of persons in crew, 40. Total on board, 215. Persons who have escaped so far, 13. Corpses washed up or found in boats, 40. Total of lives lost as far as known, 202.

BLOCK ISLAND, R. I., February 12.
—A marine disaster, with an appalling loss of life and entailing suffering almost beyond the limit of human endurance, came to light to-day when a lifeboat of the Joy Line Steamer Larchmont, bound from Providence to New York, drifted into Block Island Harbor.

In the boat were several bodies of men who had died from the effects of long hours of exposure to a death-dealing temperature. In the boat also were eleven men whose suffering was so intense that they seemed oblivious to the fact that death was in their midst and that they had escaped only by virtue of their ability to withstand the rigor of zero weather in an open boat at sea.

The boat brought a tale of disaster that has rarely been equalled in New England waters, and it is believed that when the final count is made it will be found that not less than 150 lives were lost. Following closely in the wake of the solitary lifeboat came bodies, cast upon the beach by angry waves. There came lifeboats and rafts. Each of them bore their burden of grim death, as well as a load of suffering humanity, and each brought a tale of horror.

Two Hundred on Board.
The steamship officials estimate that about 150 passengers and a crew of fifty were on board the steamer when she left Providence last night. Forty-three bodies reached these shores to-day, and nineteen were alive when taken from the lifeboats. Taking the officials as a basis, there are still 118 persons to get on shore, and a crew of 13. Each of them bore their burden of grim death, as well as a load of suffering humanity, and each brought a tale of horror.

CAPTAIN'S STORY OF THE ACCIDENT
The cause of the accident has not been satisfactorily explained. It occurred just off Watch Hill, about 11 o'clock last night, when the steamship Larchmont, bound from Providence to New York, was struck by a cargo of coal, crushed into the steamer's portside, amidships.

Almost Frozen to Death, He Tells of the Horrors of the Cold.
BLOCK ISLAND, R. I., February 12.—The steamer Larchmont, of the Joy Line, with many passengers on board, bound from Boston for New York, sank off the northwest side of Block Island early today, after having collided with the three-masted schooner Harry Knowlton, off Quonochontaug.

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